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Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 215288

44
ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66602
DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:WNEWLIN
APPROVED BY: S/S-O:WNEWLIN
---------- 004294
P 011340Z NOV 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USINT CAIRO PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 215288

EXDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, INFO BEIRUT, TEL AVIV,
NOVEMBER 1, FROM JIDDA RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE S E C R E T JIDDA 4792

EXDIS

DEPT PASS CAIRO

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, SA, SY, EG, IS
SUBJ: SAUDI CONCERN OVER ALLEGED SYRIAN MISTREATMENT
OF ISRAELI PRISONERS

1. IN LONG CONVERSATION WITH SAUDI MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS SAYYID OMAR SAQQAF LAST NIGHT I RAISED SUBJECT OF
ALLEGED MISTREATMENT OF ISREALI PRISONERS BY EGYPT AND SYRIA.
I SAID THAT EVERY INDICATION FROM TEL AVIV INDICATED ENORMOUS
CONCERN ON ALL LEVELS OF SOCIETY; THAT THESE ALLEGATIONS OF
TORTURE AND MURDER, IF TRUE, WOULD REVOLT THE WORLD AND WOULD
CERTAINLY HURT THE ARAB POSITION.

2. THE MINISTER REPLIED THAT HE HAD HEARD THESE REPORTS;
THAT SAUDI ARABIA WOULD NEVER CONCONE SUCH ACTION AND THAT HE
SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 215288

WAS SURE THE EGYPTIANS WERE NOT GUILTY.

3. HE SAID HE WAS LESS SURE ABOUT SYRIA; THAT IF THE
REPORTS WERE TRUE (AND HE HOPES THEY ARE NOT) THE SYRIANS MUST

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

STOP FORTHWITH. HE SAID HE WOULD CALL IN THE SYRIAN AMBASSADOR
THIS MORNING, TELL HIM THAT SAUDI ARABIA WAS DISTURBED BY
THESE ACCUSATIONS WHICH WOULD HURT THE GOOD NAME AND THE CAUSE
OF THE ARABS IF THEY ARE ALLOWED TO GO UNANSWERED. HE WOULD
TELL THE SYRIAN THAT THE ONLY WAY THE CHAGES COULD BE PROVEN
FALSE WOULD BE TO RELEASE THE NAMES OF THE PRISONERS AND THEN
ADMIT RED CROSS/CRESCENT WORKERS TO MEET THE ISRAELI
PRISONERS. AKINS UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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TAGS: MORG, IS, EG, SY, (SAQQAF, SAYYID OMAR)
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